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SOURCE Yugoslav newspapers as indicated.

RECLAMATION WORKS LISTED:
FARM COOPERATIVES INCREASE

RECLAMATION PROJECT IN MACEDONIA -- Borba, No 66, 19 Mar 49

Reclamation work along the Strumica River in Macedonia was begun in 1947. The plan provides for draining the swamps, controlling the rivers and many torrents, irrigation, and the planting of industrial crops, especially cotton. The reclamation project will recover about 8,000 hectares of arable land for cultivation. The lake section of Monospitovo Blato (Marsh) will become a reservoir for irrigation.

During the last 2 years, the river has been brought under control, and it now flows quietly in a new bed. The most dangerous torrents have been regulated considerably, and the Vasilica torrent has been completely regulated. A 16-kilometer-long canal has been completed at the foot of Mount Belasica to conduct the water and melted snow from the mountain into the bed of the Strumica. A large canal (11.5 kilometers long) and more than 2.5 kilometers of smaller canals have been cut across Strumica Polje. Many more canals remain to be built, and even the smallest torrents still have to be controlled.

Thousands of hectares of land in the polje [a type of Balkan basin] have already been protected from flooding and damage from torrents. Over 800 hectares of hitherto useless land have been drained.

Reclamation work to be done in 1949 will be $4\frac{1}{2}$ times more extensive than that of 1948. Barracks to house about 2,000 volunteer workers are ready, and enough for 1,500 more workers remain to be built, since about 3,500 volunteers are expected to work on the project this year.

COOPERATIVE HOLDINGS IN YUGOSLAVIA -- Borba, No 67, 20 Mar 49

As of 15 March, 2,172 farm workers' cooperatives, with a membership of 84,172 families, and 409,205 hectares of land had been registered in

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Yugoslavia, as shown in the following table:

	<u>No of Co- operatives</u>	<u>No of Families</u>	<u>Area (hectares)</u>
Serbia	949	49,154	245,020
Croatia	550	12,289	64,012
Slovenia	85	2,124	13,844
Bosnia and Herzegovina	198	6,642	26,144
Macedonia	349	12,937	56,930
Montenegro	<u>41</u>	<u>1,026</u>	<u>3,255</u>
Yugoslavia	2,172	84,172	409,205

These figures do not include recently formed cooperatives that had not registered by 15 March. In Croatia, for example, only 550 cooperatives had registered by 15 March, while 712 actually had been formed. Moreover, many cooperatives have grown considerably since 15 March and may have doubled their membership and area since these figures were compiled.

RAPID GROWTH OF FARM COOPERATIVES -- Borba, No 67, 20 Mar 49

The number of farm workers' cooperatives in Croatia is increasing very rapidly. On 3 March there were 449, on 4 March 472, on 7 March 495, and on 17 March 712, while 624 more will have been established by the end of the spring sowing, bringing the total in Croatia to 1,336.

The number of farm workers' cooperatives in Macedonia has grown from 2 in 1945, with a membership of 53 families and 214 hectares of arable land, to 26 cooperatives with 621 families and 3,439 hectares in 1946, 95 cooperatives with 1,844 families and 7,311 hectares in 1947, 237 cooperatives with 8,564 families and 35,850 hectares by the end of 1948, and 414 cooperatives by 10 March 1949.

There are now in the Vojvodina 600 farm workers' cooperatives, with a membership of over 40,000 families.

Between 1 January and the middle of March, the number of farm workers' cooperatives in Slovenia increased from 68 to 94.

Borba, No 70, 23 Mar 49

As of 20 March, 50 farm workers' cooperatives have been formed in Montenegro.

GROWTH OF CROATIAN COOPERATIVES -- Narodni List, No 1176, 24 Mar 49

By 23 March the number of farm workers' cooperatives already established in Croatia had risen to more than 800. Preparations have already been completed for forming 623 more. Thus, by the end of the spring sowing, there will be over 1,400 farm workers' cooperatives in Croatia, in addition to others which will be founded, although they were not anticipated in the plan.

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NEW COOPERATIVES IN RIJEKA --- Borba, No 68, 21 Mar 49

The plan for Rijeka Oblast calls for the formation of cooperative farms covering 2,846 hectares, 140 breeding stations, stock farms with 4,260 head of livestock, 62 farm machinery stations, and 80 farm workers' cooperatives in 1949. One hundred cooperative nurseries, eight vineyard cooperatives, seven cooperative warehouses, and a cooperative orchard covering 18 hectares also will be formed in the oblast this year.

FARMERS RELUCTANT TO PLANT COTTON -- Borba, No 70, 23 Mar 49

Experiments have shown that the climate and the land in Hercegovina are suitable for growing cotton. Consequently, much more cotton will be planted this year than in 1948.

The program for signing contracts for planting cotton opened in September. At first the farmers were reluctant to sign contracts, as cotton was completely unfamiliar to them as a crop. The wealthy farmers not only refused to plant cotton but persuaded others not to plant it. Moreover, many officials in the principal cotton stations merely sat in their offices, although it was important that they circulate among the farmers.

Nevertheless, the program for signing contracts was fulfilled 102 percent in Brlog Srez, 101 percent in Ljubuski Srez, 93 percent in Caplijina Srez, 92 percent in Stolac Srez, and 86 percent in Trebinje Srez.

SPRING SOWING -- Borba, No 66, 19 Mar 49

About 7,000 jutro of hemp will be planted in Vukovar Srez, Slavonia, this year. About 70 carloads of chemical fertilizer and about 27 carloads of quality seed have been distributed to farmers in Vukovar and Vinkovci Srez.

The machine-tractor stations in the Vojvodina have repaired 87 percent of their tractors so far. By 10 March, 89 percent of the privately-owned tractors also had been repaired.

Over 400 carloads of early vegetables will be purchased from farmers in Hercegovina this year, according to contracts that have been signed by producers and retail enterprises. Municipal and srez [collective] farms will raise especially large quantities of vegetables.

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